STATE GOVERNMENT NEWS

Published Monthly by
THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

Vol. 2 April, 1959 No. 4

GOVERNORS MEET AT WHITE HOUSE

Unemployment Compensation Program -- The Executive Committee of the Governors' Conference met on March 23 with President Eisenhower at the White House to discuss emerging issues in the unemployment compensation program and to review progress by the states in this area.

Governors present were LeRoy Collins of Florida, Chairman of the Committee; Steve McNichols, Colorado; William F. Quinn, Hawaii; William G. Stratton, Illinois; James P. Coleman, Mississippi; John E. Davis, North Dakota; George D. Clyde, Utah; and Cecil H. Underwood, West Virginia. Governor Robert B. Meyner of New Jersey, also a member of the Executive Committee, was unable to attend.

During the discussions, the President indicated that he would recommend to Congress additional legislation along the following lines:

(1) Expansion of coverage to include firms employing one or more employees and non-profit organizations -- about 3.2 million employees in all; (2) an increase in the wage base from the present $3,000; and (3) an increase from $200 million to $500 million in the Reed Act loan fund, available to states whose reserves are low.

The President expressed his sincere hope that the states, on their own initiative, would move promptly toward providing a maximum duration of benefits of at least twenty-six weeks for unemployed workers and raising benefit amounts so that the majority of covered workers will be eligible for payments equal to at least half their regular earnings. Following the conference with the President, the Governors met in executive session and unanimously adopted the following statement:

> The Executive Committee of the Governors' Conference appreciates the President's invitation to meet with him to discuss the subject of unemployment compensation. In this matter, the Executive Committee is not authorized to speak for members of the Conference not present. This expression therefore is a consensus of the views of the individual participating Governors.
>
> We believe that the states should exercise their responsibility in this field consistent with their respective needs without imposition of federal standards, governing eligibility, duration or the amount of benefits.
>
> We favor adequate federal advances to meet emergencies where the problems of employment are beyond the ability of the affected state governments.
>
> The discretion now vested in the states to set eligibility, weekly benefit amounts and duration of benefits is fundamentally sound and should be preserved. This is demonstrated by marked improvements in state laws in recent years.
>
> Unemployment insurance deals primarily with short-term employment and its purpose is to tide workers over between jobs. Rapid acceleration of technological improvements and resultant increase in the size of our labor force requirethe expansion of private enterprise and long-range state and federal planning of public works and resources development.

NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS

The New England Governors' Conference met in Hartford, Connecticut, on March 2. Governor Abraham A. Ribicoff of Connecticut was elected chairman for 1959.

After receiving a report from their special Textile Committee the Governors approved proposals for seeking federal action to assist the textile industry. Following discussion of a Northeastern Resources Compact which would establish a joint federal-state coordinating agency to deal with problems of water and land resources, the Governors agreed to support passage of necessary legislation to ratify the compact in their states. The conference will explore further the possibilities of joint use of correctional facilities. Also discussed was the possibility of holding a New England conference on higher education.

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NEW YORK LEGISLATION

The 1959 session of the New York legislature adjourned March 26 after passing 1197 bills. The great majority of the measures await action by the Governor, who has thirty days after adjournment to take action.

The legislature approved a budget of $2,000,550,000. Tax changes enacted are expected to produce $272 million in new revenue in the fiscal year beginning April 1 and some $325 million in subsequent years. The income tax was placed on a withholding basis, exemptions were changed to conform to the federal system, and rates on higher brackets were increased. All taxes on 1958 income were forgiven except taxes due on capital gains and from estates and trusts. The cigarette tax was increased from 3 to 5 cents a pack, and new taxes were placed on other tobacco products. Gasoline taxes were raised from 4 to 6 cents a gallon and taxes on diesel fuel from 6 to 9 cents. The state also expects more revenue as a result of changes permitting additional days of horse racing and an additional race each day.

An Office of Local Government was created within the Executive Department, as was an Office of Atomic Development and an Office of Transportation. A Division of Motor Boats was established.

A bill was enacted requiring financial reports from labor unions and prohibiting labor officials from having financial interests in industries with which they are negotiating. Coverage of the unemployment insurance law was extended to all firms employing one or more persons. Workmen's compensation coverage was extended to employers of three or more, as were the provisions of the sickness and disability law. As reported elsewhere in this issue, legislation was adopted to assist the railroads in the state.

The legislature voted to bar admission of evidence obtained by wire tapping in civil cases unless a court order was obtained for the wire tapping. It approved a bill to disqualify persons who refuse to testify before grand juries about business done with the state from obtaining further state contracts for five years.

New York City was authorized to adopt several new taxes or to increase rates on various present levies. A constitutional amendment to permit issuance of $500 million in school bonds for New York City received final legislative approval.

The State Dormitory Authority was voted power to finance the building of class room buildings, libraries and laboratories for private colleges as well as public institutions in the state. Additional state aid was provided for school districts which find it necessary to pay above average interest costs on bonds for building purposes.

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1313 East Sixtieth Street, Chicago 37, Illinois

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$2 per year

Second class mail privileges authorized at Chicago, Illinois.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

Benefit Periods, Payments Raised -- An Illinois law, signed March 26 by Governor William G. Stratton, extends the unemployment benefit period up to thirty-nine weeks in times of heavy unemployment. The measure provides that a maximum benefit period of thirty-nine weeks will be effective whenever total employment in the state reaches 4.375 per cent of the total work force. When the percentage falls below that figure the former maximum benefit period of twenty-six weeks will be in effect. The "escalator" provision will eliminate the necessity of the Governor calling special legislative sessions to provide unemployment relief.

Governor Harold W. Handley of Indiana signed into law March 10 a bill raising unemployment compensation benefits from a maximum total of $33 to $36 a week. The measure also extended the benefit period of coverage from twenty weeks to twenty-six.

TRAFFIC CONTROL, REGULATION

Motor Vehicle Code -- Major parts of the Uniform Motor Vehicle Code were enacted by the 1959 Arkansas legislature. The measures were approved pursuant to recent recommendations of one of the state's legislative council committees. The enactments took the form of amendments to laws already on the statute books.

California Speed Limit -- The California prima facie speed limit of 55 miles per hour on highways will be replaced January 1, 1960, by an absolute speed limit of 65 mph. A measure setting the new limit passed the legislature and was signed by Governor Edmund G. Brown in March. The law will permit local and state authorities to establish lower speed limits in special zones. Under the current prima facie limit, motorists may exceed 55 mph if they can demonstrate that conditions warrant faster travel.

Motor Scooters -- Illinois has repealed a 1957 law under which children 14 and 15 years old were allowed to operate motor scooters without licenses. A recodification of motor vehicle laws in 1957 included an amendment

that placed the scooters outside all licensing, although motor scooters were illegal for children under 14. The new measure puts scooters in the same category as motor cars -- to be operated only by a person 16 years old or older who has an automobile driver's license.

Montana Limits -- The daytime speed limit on Montana highways will end July 1 as a result of action by the 1959 legislature. The legislature has passed and Governor J. Hugo Aronson has signed a bill specifying that only the legislature may set a statewide limit. The present 65 mile-per-hour limit was established by the State Highway Department and is not statutory. The state's night speed limit of 55 mph, however, was established by statute.

EDUCATION

Western Higher Education Compact -- Nevada has become the twelfth state to ratify the Western Interstate Compact for Higher Education. The compact now includes all eligible jurisdictions with the exception of Hawaii, which is expected to consider ratification in the current territorial legislative session or in the first meeting of the state legislature later this year.

One of the activities under the compact is a contract program for out-of-state training in medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine. Through the contract program, for example, a state which has no medical school may send qualified students to an existing medical school in another signatory state. The sending state contracts to pay the full cost of a medical education, charging the student an amount equivalent to residence tuition at a school of the sending state. Presently 244 students are receiving training under the program, and plans are under way for 327 to participate in the 1959-60 school year.

Authorize Bond Issue -- Governor Robert B. Meyner of New Jersey has signed a bill authorizing up to $66.8 million in bonds for capital expenditures at Rutgers University, six state colleges and the Newark College of Engineering, to take effect if approved by referendum vote in November. The bonds would be retired by inheritance tax receipts. The bill also provides for a stand-by tax, a common feature of New Jersey bond legislation.

Audio-Visual Materials -- Twenty-four states and the District of Columbia have made use of a provision of the National Defense Education act to assist in modernizing communications in the classroom.

It supplies funds on a matching basis for the purchase by local school systems of audio-visual materials. The money is made available after state departments of education submit plans reflecting local needs to the United States Office of Education. The following states thus far have had plans approved under Title III of the act: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

Under the provision, local school systems may purchase films, filmstrips and projectors "for the improvement of education in the fields of science, mathematics and modern languages." An example of projects are film courses in high school physics and chemistry produced by Encyclopaedia Britannica Films. Catalogs of films and filmstrips which qualify under the act are available from educational film companies.

Higher Education Requirements -- Clark Kerr, President of the University of California, speaking at a March joint meeting of the University Board of Regents and the State Board of Education, predicted a 1970 enrollment of half a million students in California's state-supported institutions of higher education. He estimated that 200,000 would be enrolled in public junior colleges, an equal number in state colleges and 100,000 on the various campuses of the University of California. There are now 44,000 students in the university and 81,000 in state colleges.

University of Georgia Study -- The University of Georgia has completed a comprehensive self-study of major strengths and weaknesses in its programs, operations and plans for future development. A final report on the study synthesizes separate reports prepared by the university's schools, colleges and divisions and by faculty and staff task forces, professional consultants and alumni study committees. It contains 322 numbered recommendations and more than 100 tables and charts. Included in the findings and recommendations are projected enrollment for 1965; figures on faculty ages, salaries and turnover; proposals for curriculum review and revision, and establishment of a Curriculum Council to study all proposed curriculum changes on a continuing basis. The report contains an extensive section on administration, finances and university facilities for housing, instruction and research.

POLIO VACCINATION

North Carolina has enacted a compulsory vaccination law which requires 6 year olds entering school next fall to have certificates of polio immunization. The state will supply free vaccination shots through

local health departments for children whose parents are unable to pay. Cost for the free shots will run an estimated $100,000. Sponsors of the measure say the bill makes North Carolina the first state to require polio immunization.

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental Health Compact -- The Indiana legislature has enacted the Interstate Compact on Mental Health. Indiana thus becomes the fourteenth state to ratify the agreement, first placed before the states in 1955.

Mental Retardation Section -- The Illinois Department of Public Welfare has established by administrative order a Section on Mental Retardation in the department's Mental Health Service. The action was recommended by a legislative Commission on Mental Retardation which submitted its report to the Governor and legislature last December. The commission believes the new section will provide for better coordination in the department and with activities of other state agencies dealing with the mentally retarded. Its establishment also is expected to focus attention on problems of the mentally retarded and make for improved coordination of community programs.

Mental Health Research Survey -- The Southern Regional Education Board has launched a survey of the resources and needs of the southern region in mental health and behavioral science research, including research in mental retardation. More than 2,000 questionnaires have been distributed to researchers and administrators in the South. Detailed information will be sought on research now under way in the region and the conditions under which it is being conducted. Data on administration, finances and other provisions for research will be compiled. A committee of research survey chairmen appointed by the Governors of the participating states is cooperating in the study. An analysis of the results will be available this fall.

PROBLEMS OF THE AGING

Medical Care for Pensioners -- The Colorado Welfare Department has announced that plans are nearly complete for expanding the state's medical care coverage of old age pensioners to include free home and office doctor care.

The department hopes to institute the additional coverage in April. It will cost an estimated $1.2 million annually. The state now spends about $7.4 million a year for free pensioner care in hospitals and nursing homes. Both programs are financed by a $10 million a year medical care plan authorized out of earmarked revenues by a constitutional amendment adopted in 1956.

Because of the relatively large number of pensioners -- about 50,000 -- in proportion to limited funds, a maximum of $24 a year in free doctor care will be available for each eligible recipient. Plans are to issue such an amount in coupons. The pensioner will have free choice of doctors and will negotiate fees like any other patient. Both pensioner and doctor will sign the coupons, and the doctor will forward them to Blue Shield, which will pay the doctor and receive reimbursement from the state.

State-City Plan -- Pennsylvania and the City of Philadelphia have agreed on a division of responsibility for inspection of boarding homes for the aged, nursing homes and convalescent homes. Under the agreement the city will inspect food and sanitary facilities in the establishments. The state will take responsibility for insuring that medical services are adequate, for checking on narcotics control and for supervision of the administration of the institutions. The agreement includes provision for liaison between city inspectors and those of the state.

Report on the Aged -- An interim report of the Texas Legislative Committee to Study Problems of the Aged, created in 1957, includes a series of recommendations for consideration by the 1959 legislature.

The committee recommended (1) establishment of an Interdepartmental Committee on Aging on a continuing basis to coordinate the state's programs for aged citizens; (2) a state-wide Governor's Conference on Aging this year, to be planned by the proposed Interdepartmental Committee; and (3) nomination by the Governor of a representative either of that committee or the legislative study committee to attend the 1961 White House Conference on Aging. Continuation of the present legislative committee or appointment of a similar one was recommended to complete the study under way.

The report urged the Health Department to assist in planning or improving homes, nursing homes and day centers for the aged and to carry out a special health education program. It proposed that the state furnish an administrative framework permitting county or regional hospitals to provide consolidated general medical care for indigent citizens.

Other recommendations dealt with problems of employment, housing and income maintenance. Enabling legislation was proposed to make the state eligible for the federal program on vendor medical payments.

ATOMIC INDUSTRIAL CENTER

The Massachusetts Commission on Atomic Energy is planning to develop a 10,000 acre site as an atomic industrial center. The land is owned by the state but leased to the federal government, and the state is seeking its return for use as the center. Under the plan industries using radioactive materials would be urged to locate on the site. Establishment of an authority to administer the area is contemplated.

CORRECTIONS

Western Corrections Compact -- The Western Interstate Corrections Compact was adopted by six states in the first two weeks of March. States that adopted it by legislative action and gubernatorial signature were Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

Under terms of the compact the instrument was to become effective when ratified by two contiguous states among those eligible.

Adoption does not bind a party state to any obligation or action but provides a legal foundation for contracts among member states to confine specified kinds of convicted persons of one in the institutions of another. The contracts will be specific on such matters as number of inmates a state will obligate itself to receive; number of offenders any state may have the right to confine in a particular receiving state or a given institution; calculation of charges and items to be included in such calculations; and the exact services to be provided incidental to confinement.

Intermediate Correctional Facility -- Oregon expects to have a new $3 million intermediate State Correctional Institute in operation by June. Its primary emphasis will be on rehabilitation of first offenders under 26 years old with sentences under 10 years. The institution will have a capacity of 300 inmates. Original planning pointed to the possibility of expansion to accommodate 700 inmates.

CIVIL DEFENSE

Continuity of Government -- The Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization has reported on the status of continuity of government legislation adopted in the states. Fourteen states have enacted all or some part of the suggested legislation as recommended by OCDM and the Committee of State Officials on Suggested State Legislation of the Council of State Governments: California, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont and West Virginia. Legislation has been passed in the following additional states but at the time of the compilation awaited action by the Governor: Alaska, Arkansas, Maine, New Mexico and New York. Governor Joseph J. Hickey of Wyoming vetoed legislation as passed on grounds of unconstitutionality, since no enabling constitutional amendment was adopted by the legislature.

Civil Defense Department -- The West Virginia legislature has established a State Department of Civil Defense Mobilization. The agency will be headed by a director appointed by the Governor. Formerly, civil defense was the responsibility of a division in the office of the Adjutant General.

TRANSPORTATION

Metropolitan Transit District -- Governor Robert B. Meyner of New Jersey has signed three bills designed to alleviate the plight of commuters. One makes it possible for the state to participate in a New York-New Jersey Metropolitan Transit District. It provides for the government, powers and functions of such a district, to become effective upon enactment by New York of identical legislation. A second measure creates a Division of Railroad Transportation in the State Highway Department. The division will examine and study the facilities of the various commuter and passenger railroads and is to seek agreements between the transportation operators under which facilities can be coordinated to improve services or increase efficiency. The third bill appropriates $50,000 for initial operation of the new division.

Transportation Legislation Adopted -- The New York legislature has approved a number of measures designed to provide state assistance to railroads operating in the state. The enactments stemmed in large part from a report presented to Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller by a special transportation consultant. One measure provides tax relief for railroads by exempting from taxation certain improvements and by changing the basis of local taxation on railroad property. It is estimated that this will reduce the railroad's tax bill in New York by some $5 million in fiscal 1960-61 and $15 million in fiscal 1962-63. The state will reimburse local governments for their losses under the measure.

The legislature also approved a proposed state loan of $20 million to the Port of New York Authority to help finance the purchase of 400 new passenger coaches, largely for use on commuter lines. The coaches will be leased to the railroads. A bond issue of $100 million in Port Authority bonds to finance the purchase of railroad equipment was approved, subject to ratification by the 1961 legislature and subsequently by the electorate at a referendum.

In other action, a bi-state agency to develop a program for meeting commuter problems in the New York-New Jersey area was authorized subject to concurrence of New Jersey.

Transportation Study -- Pennsylvania and New Jersey have agreed on a joint study of transportation facilities in the Philadelphia-Camden area. Estimated cost of the survey, to continue three years, approximates $2.4 million, to be shared by the two states,

five counties in Pennsylvania and four counties in New Jersey. The study is expected to develop a plan for meeting anticipated transportation needs in 1975 and 1985.

ARKANSAS INSURANCE CODE

Complete revision of the Arkansas insurance code was enacted by the 1959 legislature. Except for minor amendments the code was the product of a five-member insurance code commission authorized by the 1957 session and assisted by expert advisors.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Water Pollution Decision -- The New York Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, has sustained the power of the State Water Pollution Control Board to classify and enforce standards for waters in the state according to a desired degree of cleanliness. The court ruled that the board had power, properly delegated by the legislature, to set standards of purity for the state's waters and compel localities to maintain them. It ruled that the board should base its decision as to purity standards on the scientific facts of each case, rather than on how much pollution abatement would cost a given community. Many upstate riverside cities have insisted that they cannot afford to build required sewage plants. The decision appeared to set a judicial precedent for upholding the validity of New York's air pollution statute, which created a board patterned after the Water Pollution Board. The air agency's enforcement powers become effective July 1.

Water Resources -- The Legislative Research Center of the University of Michigan Law School has recently published Water Resources and The Law. The volume, of 614 pages, contains the contributions of participants in a Conference on Water Resources and the Law held at the university in September, 1957. In addition, a number of monographs and the Model Water Use Act as prepared by the center's staff are included. Participants in the conference included engineers, economists and lawyers representing industry, federal, state and local governments and educational institutions. The book covers a wide range of engineering and legal subjects.

CONNECTICUT COURT REVISION

The Connecticut legislature has created a statewide Circuit Court to replace the existing municipal and trial justice courts. The new court will have forty-four full time judges. Present courts have had more than 200 judges, most of them serving part time.

The new judges will be appointed by the Governor, who has indicated he will ask a special committee of the Bar Association to review proposed appointments.

Although the Circuit Court will not come into existence until January, 1961, the judges will be appointed in the near future and will meet periodically to plan for the new system.

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES, FACILITIES

Legislators' Salaries -- One of the first acts of the legislature of the State of Alaska was establishment of members' salaries at $3,000 yearly and a per diem allowance of $40 while in session. In recognition of the extra duties of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, these officers will receive an extra $600 a year during their tenure. The salaries and allowances were made retroactive to the first day of the legislative term. Until passage of the act members served without pay.

Advisory Research Committees -- The Iowa legislature has approved a bill to give legislators a more direct part in the operations of the Legislative Research Bureau. It authorizes the legislative research committee of six members, which advises the bureau, to set up joint advisory committees of legislators to assist the bureau in studies. This procedure is similar to the pattern employed by legislative councils in many states. Each advisory committee in Iowa will consist of seven members, to be drawn principally from appropriate standing committees in the House and Senate. It is estimated that as many as ten studies may be done between legislative sessions. Thus some seventy legislators could be drawn directly into the bureau's study of state problems.

New Jersey Manual -- The 1959 edition of the New Jersey Legislative Manual has been published, containing up-to-date information on the state, its various departments, courts and institutions. Included in its nearly 800 pages are lists of state and county officials, census and election tables, descriptive sketches of state institutions and properties, almost 250 biographies, and the Governor's annual and inaugural messages. Also presented are a condensed report on state finances, a synopsis of state school laws, names of all state municipal clerks and the rules of the Senate and General Assembly. The manual ($4) can be obtained from the New Jersey Legislative Manual, 589 Bellevue Avenue, Trenton 8, New Jersey.

Bill Procedure -- The Oklahoma legislature now requires all bills to be mimeographed prior to introduction. Mimeographing is

provided by the Legislative Council, which also provides a bill drafting service.

Legislative Council Report -- The Oklahoma Legislative Council has submitted its Sixth Biennial Report and Recommendations to the legislature. The council, operating through twenty-three standing and twelve special committees, studied 182 written proposals during the 1957-59 biennium.

Individual committee recommendations adopted by the council's executive committee are included in the report. These are not introduced in the legislature as Legislative Council bills but are introduced by individual legislators or are presented to appropriate House and Senate committees by members of the council steering committee.

Emphasis was given in the report to revision and codification of major areas of law. Recommendations include proposals for revision or partial revision and codification of the laws on securities, motor vehicles and highway safety, roads and highways and workmen's compensation.

Bill Reproduction -- The Washington legislature has adopted a new method of reproducing bills. The photo-offset process has been used in the 1959 session instead of printing. S. R. Holcomb, Clerk of the House, reports that the new method is faster and less expensive. It also has the advantage of permitting legislators to look at an exact reproduction of the original bill.

Estimated original costs of photo-offsetting run from 25 to 50 per cent under the old printing method. Moreover, costs of printing additional copies of bills when required later have been as much as 75 per cent less.

The new process makes it possible to reproduce and deliver copies of twenty page bills in four hours, as compared with eighteen to twenty hours before.

Interim Study Groups -- The Wyoming legislature has established two study groups to explore various problems before the 1961 legislature convenes. One is a Legislative Research Committee with sixteen members equally divided between the two legislative houses and the two major parties. It has an appropriation of $85,000 and will make nine studies -- on municipal problems, uniform property valuation and equitable taxation, special tax districts, the uniform commercial code, school finances, election laws, highway safety, irrigation and highway reciprocity agreements. The other group is a Reorganization Commission of two Representatives, two Senators and four appointees of the Governor. The commission was given an appropriation of $5,000 to study reorganization of state government.

ADMINISTRATION

Retirement Systems Study -- The Nebraska Legislative Council Committee on Retirement Systems has submitted a report to the 1959 legislature recommending changes in the state's retirement system for state and county officers and employees. One proposal would create a five man board to determine policy for investment of bonds of the state retirement systems. Membership would comprise the Governor, the State Treasurer and three professional investment people. Another recommendation urges establishment of a permanent seven man committee on retirement systems, to consist of four Senators, a member of the Attorney General's office, a member of the Insurance Department, and another citizen experienced in pension plans. Additional recommendations urge amendments to the retirement system for judges to provide for salary deduction, benefits based on a five year salary average, and maximum benefits of 65 per cent of final average salary less federal social security.

Ohio Opinions Indexed -- An "Accumulative Index" to the opinions of the Attorney General of Ohio was published recently. It is based on standardized subject headings which conform to those used in the Ohio Revised Code, enacted several years ago. Analyzing and indexing the opinions required more than a year and was performed by Willard Campbell, Ohio attorney, who previously had supervised the code revision.

Office of Lieutenant Governor -- A survey of recent trends in the office of Lieutenant Governor, Reform of the Office of Lieutenant Governor, has been published in pamphlet form by the Public Affairs Press. Expansion of duties of the office in recent years, the pamphlet notes, has occurred in about half of the thirty-eight states which have Lieutenant Governors.

In ten states -- Alabama, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Mexico, Tennessee and Texas -- the officer is a member of the interim legislative research council. In Colorado, Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania he is a member of the Governor's cabinet. He is a member of the parole or pardons board in Colorado, Delaware, Louisiana and Pennsylvania; and in California, Connecticut, New York and North Carolina he represents the state on educational boards when state funds are involved.

Michigan's Lieutenant Governor is on the State Administrative Board, which has supervisory control over state administration. The Lieutenant Governor of Indiana not only serves by statute in a similar capacity but is also Commissioner of Agriculture, ex-officio Director of Commerce and Public Re-

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lations, and is on numerous state boards.

Low salaries or per diem payments still are the norm, the report notes. Kentucky and Texas now provide living quarters for the Lieutenant Governor in the capital city. Professor Benjamin Nispel, author of the report, notes that recent trends have been toward increasing the status and duties of the office rather than toward its abolition, as was recommended frequently in an earlier period. Georgia and Tennessee created the office within the past decade, and at least five other states have considered its establishment.

The pamphlet is available from the Public Affairs Press, 419 New Jersey Ave., S. E., Washington, D. C., for $1.

REPORT ON CONSTITUTION

Pennsylvania Revision Proposed -- Following a twenty month study, the Pennsylvania Commission on Constitutional Revision has submitted a report to the legislature recommending thirty-five changes in the state constitution.

Annual legislative sessions and an appointive plan for judges are among the proposals. Under the latter the Governor would appoint judges from lists submitted by a judicial commission. Changes affecting the judiciary would result in consolidation of some courts in Philadelphia.

The commission recommended requiring reapportionment of the legislature after each census and authorizing the Governor to call a special session for that purpose if a legislature fails to reapportion during the regular session. Another proposal would permit the Governor to succeed himself for one term.

The report recommended that debt limitations in the constitution be changed to permit issuance of general obligation bonds when approved by the legislature and the electorate. Stringent constitutional limitations on this subject have been one cause of widespread use of public authorities in Pennsylvania. Other recommendations include proposals on the state's administrative structure and legislative practices and procedures.

TAXES

Hawaii Compensating Tax -- The Hawaii Supreme Court has ruled constitutional a Compensating Tax Law which requires payment of a three-fourths of 1 per cent tax on merchandise shipped directly to island retailers from outside sources. The decision preceeded by a few days a recent United States Supreme Court ruling on taxation on imports under certain conditions. (See State Government News, March 1959, pp 2-3.)

Hawaii's Supreme Court held that the tax on which it ruled is not discriminatory against interstate commerce but is designed to cause such commerce to bear its fair share of the cost of government. The tax law was passed to permit compensation to Hawaii for taxes it otherwise would lose on goods not shipped through local wholesalers, who pay an excise.

North Dakota Tax Study -- A resolution of the North Dakota legislature has directed its Legislative Research Committee to study the tax laws and tax structure of the state. The committee will report and make recommendations to the 1961 session of the legislature. The State Tax Department will cooperate in the study, and North Dakota Agricultural College and the University of North Dakota are authorized to aid the committee. To carry out the study the committee's regular appropriation was increased by $30,000.

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